

South Branch Community Meeting
March 5, 2003 @ 5:00 p.m.
South Branch Community Center

Those present: Laurie Boivin, Joan Delabreau and Gary Besaw. Also present: Doug Cox, Dana Boivin, Liz Boivin, Teresa Konaha, Tony Warrington, Lloyd Pecore, Edith Peters, Gerald Dick, Jamie Cornelius, Brenda Dick and Antonette Munoz.

Chairman Laurie Boivin called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.
Doug Cox from the Environmental Services department was present to talk about the European beetle that the County will be releasing to try and control the purple loosestrife plant.

The County is rearing the beetles now and this spring/summer will be releasing them around Legend Lake. They have asked the Tribe if they will work with them and also release them on tribal water areas. The County will provide all the supplies and beetles. They will be reared by the old highway shop area at Keshena Falls and also at the forks of county VV and Old South Branch Rd.

The beetles have been studied extensively by the US fish & wildlife department and the US department of Agriculture. Both agencies approved use of the beetles for this purpose. Other areas nearby that are using the beetles are Ashland, Navarino and Langlade County. None of these areas have experienced any problems.

The beetles live only on the purple loosestrife plant and once they have eaten a plant must find more otherwise they will die of starvation.

The community believes the information should be put in the Tribal News and posted around for the community to become more aware of this.

Questions asked:

- Where are we on getting stumpage payments? The MTL/MTE task force will be meeting next week on March 12th and there will be a special general council on March 29, 2003.
- Investigator Snow was present to let the community know that if they have any complaints to call Police Chief Duquain, she will take all calls.
- There was a question on 82-10 and the casino. There are many complaints that the casino is not following this.
- Lack of communication on meetings. The community was informed that the Tribal News will be having a community section once the dates of meetings are confirmed with their new chairman.
- The elderly meals are arriving later in South Branch because of the bus issue. There is going to be a meeting next Thursday at 12:30 in Neopit regarding this.
- What is happening with the casino compact? The officers of the Legislature have been to Madison to negotiate and talk with Governor Doyle. We hope to have a signed compact sometime in March.
- A community member heard that Stockbridge has bought a piece of land between Qualheims and the Pioneer bank. Do we know what their going to do with this? The Legislators were not aware of this.
- At the Casino when the bar flooded last spring there were trash bags full of cans of beer taken out and put into the Restaurant/bar manager's car? Does anybody know what happened to these or why she took them?

- Can the Casino grievance board have someone from Tribal Offices come over instead? When you have a grievance at the casino everything is cut and dried before you even go, it's unfair.
- There were complaints about housing charging tenants to fix things that were housing's mistakes to begin with.
- There are tenants that have people living with them that work for cash in the woods and nothing ever gets done about them.
- If you're convicted of drugs you're not supposed to be living in housing yet there are people living in Nacotee addition.
- Tony Warrington has some young people who would like to come up this summer and help elders with painting cleaning, etc. He would like to know who's approval they would need, if any.

Motion to adjourn: GB/JD.

Meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by
Legislative Staff Services